Phone-Riosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel. Biesque No. 10, Bonlevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for lication with is have rejected articles esturned, the

must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

#### Advising a Democratic Retreat.

Mr. RICHARD CROKER has found minong the Brooklyn Democrats an outspoken supporter of his proposition that in the next Presidential campaign the Democratic party shall abandon the cause of free silver coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1. In a speech made to the guests of the Brooklyn Democratic Club last Thursday evening Mr. EDWARD M. SHEPARD expressed the follow ing views:

"I sincerely trust that the Democratic party at its next convention, and that you, gentlemen, who are Democrats in Congress, will declare the question of 16 to 1 ended; that, without aspersion of the motives of any man, silver or gold, and without pronouncing upon the right of the question one way or the other, you will declare that the Democratic party will, for the peace and prosperity of the country, maintain the present standard until the great nations of the world having some sort of equality of position to the United States, shall join together to establish bimet-allism. I do not now argue that bimetallism is wrong or right. What I now say is that any attempt to es tablish it except it be done by the chief nati the world together, is as absolutely impossible as to suspend the law of gravitation."

This is a fair and square retreat from the position taken by the Democratic party in 1896, and as fair and square a going over to the position taken by the Republicans, in their declaration of principles, that same year, at St. Louis. The Republicans pronounced against the free coinage of silver "except by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world," and now Mr. SHEPARD says the same thing almost in the same words,

Still, we cannot help remembering that the whole body of Democrats of this State, assembled in convention in 1896, declared quite as positively against free silver; yet, shortly after, the Democratic party of the State took back its words and supported and voted for WILLIAM J. BRYAN as President on a distinctly free silver platform.

#### Never Too Late.

No statesman who promoted or accepted the ante-bellum declaration of Congress excepting Cuba from the possibility of our sovereignty has been heard to complain of the presence of the American troops in Cuba, or of their exercise of absolute control there. Under the Administration's policy of laying in Cuba, first of all, a lasting foundation of order, disturbance there would be dealt with by our army with all the severity necessary for its suppression, without, we imagine, serious remonstrance in this country.

When, however, the Executive, with no forbidding act of Congress behind him. chooses in the Philippines the quickest and simplest road to peace by taking over the sovereignty from Spain, a little group of anti-annexationists, knowing all things, having perfect prevision into all future international situations involving this country, and pale at the thought of our forces reducing to submission the dissenting Filipinos, a people far more ignorant of civilized government than the Cubans would have this country declare off-hand that the American flag cannot be raised in the Philippines, and that they must make their own way in the coming Asiatic struggle for domination. The anti-annexationists affirm, although knowing nothing as to the fact, that the Philippine community most entitled to consideration would rather have Tagal rule than United States rule.

Spain has retired from the Philippines in our favor. Beyond the authority of the United States there is nothing but Agur-NALDO, decorated with his gold breastplate and whistle. It will be impossible even to learn the sentiment of the inhabitants until we have spread over the islands the repose of our unquestioned authority.

We shall talk more intelligently about retiring from the Philippines after the treaty is ratified. In the language of the late SAMUEL JONES TILDEN, "It is never too late o surrender."

# The Increase in City Taxes.

Owners of real estate in this city, and especially of that situated in the borough of Manhattan, are, naturally, anything but pleased with the prospect of paying more taxes on their property this year than they have ever paid before. The aggregate real estate valuations in the entire city have been raised from \$2,528,000,000 last year to \$2,950,900,000 this year, and in this borough from \$1,755,000,000 last year to \$2,062,000,000 this year, besides which the rate of taxation will probably be this year \$2.50 on the \$100, against \$2.01 last year. At this rate of increase, a piece of property on this island, assessed last year at, say, \$10,000, and on which the tax was \$201, is now assessed at, say, \$11,700, and the tax on it will be \$202.50, or nearly onehalf more than it was last year.

Disagreeable as the prospect is, we do not see that it justifies the outery it has provoked in the newspapers. The valuations complained of, high as they are, do not exeged the limit which the law requires, or if, in special cases, they do so, the persons aggrieved can get redress either from the Tax Commissioners, or, failing to secure it from them, from the courts. The law requires all real property to be assessed for purposes of taxation at its "full value," and in none of the cases about which complaint has been made is any pretence set up that the assessment is higher than this amount. As to the increased rate, it must be remembered that the city's budget this year includes about \$8,000,000, which was borrowed temporarily last year to equalize the taxation of the several boroughs, and to that extent diminished last year's taxes. This item atone explains 20 cents on the \$100 of the increase in the rate, since, but for it, the rate last year would have been \$2.11 and this year only \$2.40. The rest of the increase is due to the demands of our citizens for greater expenditures on street cleaning, public school accommodations police, and similar things, none of which can

be gratified without more money. The assessed valuations of real estate in New York have for years been lower than they otherwise would have been, because of a supposed necessity of diminishing the

has tried to pay as little to the State as possible, and, thus, there has grown up a custom of violating the law and assessing real estate, not at its "full value," but at two-thirds or one-half of it, and even less. Now that the exigencies of this city and the constitutional limitation of its debt have compelled a stricter compliance with the law, the officers executing the law should not be blamed for it.

### An Anti-Imperialist Hero.

The hero of the anti-imperialists at pres ent is AGUNALDO, a semi-Spaniard adventurer who seems to have blackmailed the Spanish authorities in the Philippines and who is now impudently threatening to make war with the United States, although, ecording to the American Consuls at Hong Kong, Manila and Singapore, he and his gang expressed themselves a few months ago as satisfied with the prospect of American government in the Philippines.

Carried by a United States vessel to the Philippines, which have since been conmered from Spain by the army and navy of the United States, he is trying to take advantage of the disordered condition of the islands to set himself up as a sovereign, for his pretended republic is merely an attempt at dictatorship. He is the sort of cumning, unscrupulous, fustian-spouting and violent person that appears so often in the Central American republics. "Freedom" and "independence" in his mouth mean what he can get and hold.

He does not represent the great mass of the natives. He does not represent, according to our Consuls, the majority of the more prosperous and intelligent citizens who would be the support and the hope of any real effort at self-government in the Philippines. What power he attains will be attained by force and not by the consent of the governed, about which his sympathizers in the United States are so delirious.

If good order and the reign of law are to be maintained in the Philippines; if the islands are to be protected against internal anarchy and the conflict of jealous races, the United States must do the work or some other strong nation will. AGUINALDO would be followed by a great crop of Aguinaldos, and security and prosperity would be impossible

This strutting little mongrel pretender, trying to bully the United States and force his way to a power resting on no fitness of the governor or desire of the governed, is greeted by the anti-imperialists as a champion of liberty, and the Mugwumps caper to his golden whistle!

### The New Irish Revolutionary Party.

Americans have been so interested in their war with Spain and its consequences that they have overlooked some notable events that have taken place during the last year in Ireland. During the whole twelvemonth Irish Nationalists were engaged In commemorating the centenary of the Irish rebellion of 1798. Throughout the length and breadth of the Island "98 Centonary Celebrations" have been attended by tens of thousands of the townsfolk and peasantry, and a multitude of '98 clubs have been formed, most of which seem likely to be absorbed in the United Irish League, an organization that promises to prove more formidable than any of its predecessors, not excepting the Land League and the National League.

That the new association embraces not only those who believe in seeking home rule by constitutional means, but also many representatives of the physical force party, is evident from the tenor of the speeches made at some of its public meetings. Ostensibly, however, neither insurrection nor intimidation of landlords is contemplated. The purpose of the United Irish League is defined in the brief resolution put forth by its founders: "That, in the words of the constitution [of the first club of United Trishmen established in 1792 this society is constituted for the purpose of forwarding a brotherhood of affection, a community of rights and a union of power among Irishmen." The resolution goes on to say that "membership shall be open to all Irish Nationalists without reference to any sectional differences, and all controversial subiects as between Irish Nationalists shall be excluded from discussion."

The immediate programme of the organization, which has spread all over Ireland, has two aims, the one agrarian, the other political. The League holds out to agricultural laborers, who thus far have gained nothing by land reforms, the hope that the grazing farms will be ultimately divided up among them, provided a vigorous war is waged against the cattle and sheep raisers of Ireland. The tremendous scope of this movement is as yet imperfectly appreciated on this side of the Atlantic.

The truth is that of the total acreage of Ireland only about one-quarter was tilled in 1897. Even if we assume that another quarter is represented by bog land, mountain, or land that is neither grazed nor tilled there remains at least one-half of the soil of Ireland which will be affected by the new land agitation. The exports from Ireland will also be influenced to an extraordinary extent. Few Americans are aware that more cattle and sheep are annually imported into Great Britain from Ireland than from all foreign countries put together. Thus, in 1896, the value of the cattle and sheep imported into Great Britain from all foreign countries comblned fell short of \$53,000,000, while the value of those imported from Ireland exceeded \$59,000,000. This great export trade will be swept away if the United Irish League shall bring about the purchase of all grazing lands by the State and their distribution among surrounding occupiers of holdings too small to support life. But while that branch of trade will disappear. the agricultural laborers, who constitute so large a part of Ireland's population, and for whom nothing has yet been done, will

be well provided for. As regards the strictly political efforts of the United Irish League, these will for the moment be directed to carrying the forthcoming County Council elections in Ireland. What is hoped for was indicated last September by Mr. WILLIAM O'BBIEN, the chief founder of the association, at a meeting in county Clare. "England," he said, has given Ireland thirty-two local Parliaments, and these would be made more obnoxious to the English garrison than any Irish Parliament could possibly be. Twenty-nine or thirty of them would be fort-

Mr. T. HEALY spoke to much the same effect at Gorey. It was determined, he said, "to make every County Council a focus of na tionalism." So, too, Mr. John E. Redmond, speaking in October at the Independent Convention in Dublin, declared that "it was their duty to see that Nationalist majorities were elected in every County Council where it was possible." The leader of the Parnellites also announced recently that he in-

resses of Irish nationality."

city's quota of State taxes. Every county | tended to hold a series of local conventions before the elections took place. A similar course would naturally be pursued by the other Nationalist sections. It is expected that the United Irish League will dominate most, if not all, of these conventions.

The new revolutionary party, is an answer to the practical exclusion of the home rule plank from the British Liberal platform. The foundation and the remarkable development of the United Irish League signify that the Irish people have determined once more to help themselves, and to rely no longer on the assistance of any political party in Great Britain.

#### The Great Canal.

The account which Cant. APRYTS, CROWN-INSUITED gives in the Century Magazine of the advantages of the Nicaragua Canal is that of a competent observer, who has for cars made the subject one of careful study Capt. CROWNINSHIELD believes that all our ports will profit by the canal, but those of the Pacific coast most. Every bushel of the grain products of California and Oregon exported to Europe now goes, he says, by way of Cape Horn, but with the canal those

States will be brought 8,000 miles nearer to their market. The voyage is now 135 days long, and then it will be only 35, so that the cargo can be delivered over three months earlier. During the year ending June 30, 1898, 1,150,000 tons of wheat 200,000 tons of other grain, and 2,000,000 barrels of flour were shipped from the Pacific coast.

The Gulf States will profit by the canal, because it will give them a cheaper route for their cotton to Japan and China, the ost by rail to San Francisco being now very heavy. While New Orleans, Galves ton and Mobile will use the canal for this purpose, Pensacola can employ it for her lumber, and Tennessee and Alabama for their coal and iron, in the trade with the west coast of Mexico and South America. The Central and Eastern States of the Atlantic coast will in like manner use it for their manufactures.

As for the strategic value of the canal to the Government, the famous voyage of the Oregon is an object lesson which needs no elucidation, while it has been repeated in her return to the Pacific with the Iowa. Agair, had CAMARA gone through to the Philippines, Warson would have had a long, stern chase, whereas, with the Nicaragua Canal at his service "the race to Manila would no longer have been in doubt."

Capt. CROWNINSHIELD points out that in Lake Nicaragua, ninety miles long by forty broad and covering nearly three thousand square miles, and in the San Juan River flowing thence to the Atlantic coast, nature has done much toward opening this route while he does not hesitate to favor the lock system on which the present plans are pased. He believes that the canal, with all its accompaniments, including its terminal harbors, can be built for \$100,000,000 or \$120,000,000; and he shows that, when its opponents talk of the failures of the Manchester, Kiel and Corinth canals as investments, we might well cite the success o the Suez Canal:

"The par value of the Suez Canal shares is 5 france. Last April they were quoted in Paris at 3,518 france. The shares of the Suc. Canal purhased for the British Government by the astute DISEARLI, for which he paid \$19,000,000, are now worth the enormous sum of \$123,000,000, or much more than the entire original cost of the Suez Causl itself. The operating expenses are probably less than nine per cent, of its earnings, so that, from a gross income of about \$14,000,000, it is able to divide among its shareholders nearly \$13.000,000.

As to this question of commercial profit. Capt. Crowninshield points out that we must deal with the prospective uses of the canal, and cites the fact that in the last fifteen or sixteen years the world's merchant marine has nearly doubled its numbers and nearly trebled its tonnage, while we must calculate on the further increases to be reached in 1904, or at the earliest date at which the canal could be opened.

## The Metric System.

The contractors for a large amount of ironwork for bridge building in Norway recently placed their order for the material in Antwerp, though they had been in the habit of patronizing British manufacturers. When the question was asked why they transferred their business to Belgium they replied that they would gladly have placed the order in England, but they had been unable to induce British manufacturers to supply the work on the basis of the metric system of measurements; and the necessary measurements were so numerous and complicated that they did not think it worth while to work them all out into British feet and inches. Thereupon the British Board of Trade published the facts, expressed its "deep sensibility of the injury done to British trade by the delay in the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures by this country," and urged "the Government and all public bodies to aid in making the system familiar to the public by making use of it in their various contracts, returns and reports."

About two-thirds of the people living under Christian Governments use the metric system. Seventy million more use it in part, and in this country another 70,000,000 are authorized by law to transact their business by metric standards if they so desire. Our Bureau of Foreign Commerce frequently prints with "The Consular Reports" most of the metric tables of Weights and Measures with English equivalents, but strangely omits some important items. For instance, the bureau does not give the metric equivalent of a square mile, though practically every European newspaper, book, and map outside of England and Russia gives areas in square kilometres. It is easy enough to deduce square miles from square kilometres if a person knows the formula; and a line or two devoted to this matter in the comparative tables which our Government takes se much pains to issue would frequently assist the average reader or student.

The metric system was devised for the purpose of removing the confusion and impediments to business arising from the large number of standards of weights and measures used in different countries. It is not necessary for us to adopt the system out and out, but we can drill our school children so thoroughly in the practical use of the metric standards that they may easily employ them when occasion requires.

Prof. HATCHER of Princeton has gone to Patagonia again to hunt for fossils. This eems an unnecessary expense when Boston and Springfield are known to contain such fine

The Hon. ALEXANDER TROUP of the New Haren Union, perhaps the most active of the Connecticut Bryanites, can never conceal his emotion when he comes to talk about the Chi-cago platform. "The time will come." Mr. TROUP says, in the style of Virtue in the melodrama. "when that platform will take a place side by side with the Declaration of Independ-

ence," We are sometimes puzzled to find out what room there is in the Democratic affections for the Constitution. Just at present they profess to be alarmed for its health, but

evidently they regard it as much inferior to the Chicago platform. The three documents may be classed by them as follows: 1. Chicago Platform. 2. Declaration of Independ

ence. S. Constitution. As the old Declaration prepared the way for he Constitution, so the new Declaration is to prepare the way for a new Constitution which will abolish plutocrats and corporations and trusts, make silver a sacred metal, and curb onopoly and the Supreme Court.

The other day the Hon. DONELSON CAF-FRAY of Louislana braced the pillars of the Constitution and hurled himself at expansion There were six Senators on the floor, and one of them actually listened to a part of the speech. Cheered by the success of his performance, Senator CAFFERY Is continuing his constitutional studies

Illinois has a law requiring every corporation to file with the Secretary of State every year a report and an affidavit that it is not a party to any trust or combination in restraint of trade. Fee for filing the report and affidavit, one dollar. Fine for not filing, \$50 a day. The uncollected fines of corporations in the town of Rockford amount to \$0,000,000. In Chicago the fines must be incredible. The corporations object to this ingenuous law, but what do they expect? It makes a nice job for somebody, and is a fillip at the trusts, and the trusts are the sum of all villantes

The wage workers, the laboring classes of the United States, have been aroused by the fact that imperialism and expansion are dangerous to their interests,—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

So the wage-workers, the laboring "classes of the United States, consist of the Central Labor Union of this town, the Central Labor Union of Boston and the Hon. SAM GOMPERS

The Public Ownership Committee of Los Angeles, Cal., has exposed the purposes of imperfalism in this startling manner:

"(1) To employ the surplus labor population in war: (2) to provide a large standing army for pro-tection of their monopoly-gained fortunes from an uprising of the people; (3) to open foreign markets to relieve the glut of home conditions by giving the working and middle classes a few crumbs, while not ceding any of their fraudulent monopoly 'rights.' "

These are atrocious designs, and the most atrocious is the plan of benefiting "the working and middle classes." Anything that makes people prosperous and contented and takes away their attention from the fell devices of monopoly pains the Public Ownership Com-

The Hon. JIM JONES has been good enough to deny that the Hon. Cors HARVEY is to receive 10 per cent, of the Democratic cam paign fund which he is trying to collect. Is it possible that Corn prefers to take 10 parts for himself and give 1 part to "the cause"

Certain persons in Toronto have been arrested on the charge of witcheraft and soreery We knew when we saw the recent wild caperings of the Toronto World that it must be a case of demoniae possession. After proper exoreism that perturbed contemporary may re

#### The President of Yale.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Shades of Yale's ex-Presidents, from Abrahamus Pierson to Noachus Porter! What think ye of Guitielmus L. Wilson as the next President of Yale University? Yale seldom errs, but when she does her sons

may be pardoned for criticising. New England colleges are largely attended by young men of the West and South, not be cause their own regions of the country are lacking in excellent facilities for education but because they imbibe, by a residence in New England, from a New England training and the New England atmosphere, that which they cannot get nearer home - an indescribable leaven

not get nearer home an indescribable leaven that clings throughout life and makes its influence felt in the conduct of the affairs of our country and of our homes.

The writer, a New Englander by birth, a Yale man by education, a Westerner by adoption and business affiliation, has, perhaps, been instrumental in sending many youths to New England to be educated, and when it came to a choice of institutions be has always favored Yale. But he will not even send his own sons to his alma mater if william L. Wilson is to be her next President. His election to that high office is too great a violation of Yale precedent and Yale tradition, and will undoubtedly alienate many friends of that grand university. It is, moreover, a reflection upon all Yale nen, among whom, surely, there is an abundance of available Presidential timber.

The more advanced friends of this new Yale movement will say that the writer, is too con-

abundance of available Presidential timber. The more advanced friends of this new Yale movement will say that the writer is too conservative. Hardly, He glories in Yale's cosmopolitanism. He does not believe in the marking system. He is in favor of abolishing compulsory attendance at chapel. But he insists upon a Yale man for Yale's President For that high office, rather a Congregational clergyman from the back hills of Connecticut than a rank outsider, be he never so illustrious. It is well enough to elect a number of eminent and ornamental men from the country at large to membership in the corporation, but keep the actual government of the university within a hundred miles of New Haven, and choose her Presidents within the same radius.

Prof. Wilson is a most lovable Christian gentleman, but—in kindness be it said—he is a Southerner, an ex-Confederate, a free-trader, a Mugwump—hardly the man to advance the best interests of Yale.

New York, Jan. 13.

A Republican Boss Needed in Brooklyn To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. I have read with considerable interest the editorial in to-day's SUN on the slump in the Republican vote of the county of Kings in the last election.

No, it was not the Raines law, neither was it the 'neighborly popularity" of Judge Van Weck. In ome degree it was attributable to the factional bitterness left as a legacy from the Low campaign but certainly in equal, if not greater, degree it must be charged to the Republican management (or, rather, mismanagement) in Kings county. If any business house should conduct its affairs in the manner in which the Republican party in Kings county has been conducted for a year or me t would face, and face speedily, inevitable bank-

county has been conducted for a year or more past, it would face, and face speedily, inevitable bank ruptay. If any Republican leader in Kings county in the past campaign possessed any of that executive ability, that theroughness, persistence and perseverance in securing a full registration and vote that characterized our friends, the enemy, he, she or they most cleverly succeeded in exapping the attention of an avious public.

On the day of the last primary election in the county of Kings, the writer made careful inquiry at the Union League Club, the leading Republican organization in that county, for the purpose of learning where the primary election for the district in which the club i midnig a situated was being held. Careful questioning failed to find any one who knew of the whereabouts of any such primary. The writer is a member of this club, and you can readily imagine that such membership is an inspiration in itself in affairs political.

To my personal knowledge momerous Republicans in Kings county shout days this past fall before they succeeded in inding their places of registration. Possibly these places were published in some paper, but they were never brought to the attention of these particular persons and certainly no Republican organization places. Some of these men after the first failure to find the place for registration never bothered with the matter again, never registered and consequently never voted. If there was any Republican organization that was supposed to look after such matters as tais it kept discreetly to itself.

No, do not blamp Judge Yan Wyck or the Raines law and don't fall too heavily on Brother Low. If some of our wor hy leaders in Kings county would kindly arrange to emigrate and devote their entire eleging fridescent waistones or the promotion of sewerace contracts, we believe that our party could stand the loss, and even thrive under it.

The writer is, and silvery has been, an organization fleguloidan, but there are organizations and organizations and some organizations

## Parade for the Regulars.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I see that Gen awton is making a tour of the various army posts with a view to getting in perfect condition the regi ments which have been ordered on the Philippine expedition, as he intends that it shall not only be an expedition but an exhibition to the nations of the Old World of the kind of army that the United States

Old World of the kind of army that the United States can send out.

Our regular army is one which very few people of this country have ever seen. We have read of their glorious exploits at El Caney and San Juan, of their uncomplaining endurance of sufferings in the field and trenches.

Why not have it so arranged that the regiments going to the Philippines shall land in the upper part of the city and march down Broadway, so that we man look at the men who have already covered themselves and the valion with glory and whose appearance in the Old World is expected to be an "even opener".

NEW YORK, Jan. 13

OUIXOTIC OPPOSITION.

The Feeble, Vain and Sentimental Outers

Against Destiny in the Senate, WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.-For the last month the anti-expansionists have occupied the floor of the Senate, and what an exhibition they have made of themselves!

Senator Vest set the ball in motion on Dec when he introduced his resolution, founded on the Dred Scott decision, denying the power of the United States to acquire territory except for the purpose of conversion into States for admission into the Union. If there is any one decision of the Supreme

Court that has been reprobated and repudiated

by the American people it is the Dred Scott de-

cision. That decision destroyed the greatest party that has ever dominated this country. It disrupted the Democracy, driving Northern and Western Democrats to the support squatter sovereignty, under the lead of Stephen A. Douglas, and was the po-President, and of the war that followed. The result of that war swept away the foundation of the Dred Scott decision, and the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution recorded its formal repudiation. Since that time, as de-clared by Justice Miller, "it has been only an neumbrance on the reports of the Supreme Court." For thirty years it has been mouldering in its dusty pigeonhole. The venerable Senator from Missouri now drags it forth and brandishes it as a potent weapon in the struggle of the obstructionists against inevidestiny. It is a pathetic performance that reminds us of poor old Rip Van Winkle emerging from the wilderness, with his rusty

firelock, after his twenty years' nap. Following Mr. Vest, Senator Caffery has made three eloquent attempts to convince the Senate that the Constitution was made for the benefit not of the people of the United States, but for the benefit of those inhabitants of the Philippine Islands, whose teader, Aguinaldo, having sold out once to Spain, has now set up at the old stand in the hope of selling out again to the rich Americans.

Then there is that fine old gentleman, Senator Hoar, who has dug out of the Declaration of Independence that somewhat familiar announcement that "Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Thirty years ago Mr. Hoar apparently did not hold to this doctrine. He then saw no impropriety in imposing upon the Southern States a military government until they could be reconstructed in acwith the political principles cordance that had been established by the war. That was all right for the people of the South then. but when it is now proposed to apply the same treatment temporarily to the semi-civilized Inhabitants of the Philippines, Senator Hoar raises his hands in holy horror at the great outrage and invokes the Declaration of Independence

The fact is, as we all know, that this famous phrase was put into the Declaration as a mere rhetorical flourish. There is neither truth nor sense in it, as all history and all experience lemonstrate, and nobody knew this better than Thomas Jefferson and his colleagues. At the very time when he penned the clause Jefferson held some hundred or more slaves in bondage in Virginia; and of the thirteen State Governnents that were declared independent, not one was founded on the consent of the governed.

To-day when what we call universal suffrage recognized in practically all of the States. the voter bears the ratio of about one to five of the population. The non-voting four-fifths are governed by the voting one-fifth. At the time the Revolution the right of suffrage was much more limited than it is now, and the roting or governing class bore a much smaller ratio to the non-voting class

There never was a State whose Government derived its powers from the consent of the governed, and there never will be until women and children are allowed to vote.

There is only one way to read this clause in the Declaration, and that is the way that is adopted by all courts in the construction of all laws We must make sense and reason out of it if we can, and if we can't we must lay it aside as senseless and unreasonable. That is what the framers of the Constitution - among them Washington and Franklin and Hamilton and Madison-did when they came to make the fundamental law under which we live. They simply ignored Jefferson's rhetoric and went on to provide a practical government that would "establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence. general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our poster-'y." Mark the italicized words. They did not undertake to secure the blessings of liberty to They were not political Do Quixotes embarking on a crusade in behalf of the captive damsels or oppressed peoples of the world. They were only sensible, selfish patriotic Americans who were looking out for themselves and their posterity, and leaving the rest of the world to look out for itself. That was the object of the Constitution, that is its spirit and letter, and that is the burden of that famous Farewell Message that George Washington gave to his countrymen as a chart to guide them safely through the unknown sea

that lay before them. Whatever, then, tends to establish justice. to insure domestic (not foreign) tranquillity, to provide for the common defence, to promote the general welfare, or to secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, is comprehended in the scope of the Constitution and that we may constitutionally do.

If the Senate believes that it will promot the general welfare of the people of this coun try to ratify the treaty now pending, it must do so. If that is done the Philippine Islands will belong to the United States, and it will then be the duty of the national legislature to do with them and to them as shall seem best not for the Philippines, primarily, but for ourselves. In the consideration of this question Congress must remember that it holds the power of legislation not absolutely as an owner, but as a trustee for the benefit of the American people only. A trustee may be natucally inclined to be kenerous or even extrava gant, but in his capacity as trustee he is not as liberty to exercise his liberality or his extrava gance at the expense of his beneficiary. If he gives a dollar out of his own rocket to a begga: he has a right to do so, but if he takes it out of

the trust fund he is a thief. The Congress of the United States is not Congress of philanthropists, with full powers to experiment at our people's expense in various forms of government that may be best fitted or most agreeable to the Inhabitants of the outside world. The distinguishing difference between our own Revolution and the French Revolution is that our insurrection against British oppression was guided and controlled by men of sound practical common sense, while the French Revolution was started by idealists, who soon lost control of the elements they had put in motion, and themselves became the victims of the rabble they had stirred up to mutiny. So Lafayette gave place to Robespierre, and Mme. Roland died by the guillotine, exclaiming, "Oh, Liberty! what crimes are perpetrated in thy name.

The eloquent pleadings of the anti-expansion senators in behalf of liberty for the Philippines remind me of an episode in that Revolution when Anacharsis Klootz, the Prussian exile presented himself before the French Assembly is "The Orator of the Human Bace," to the cause of the whole world. He had hired a ot of vagabonds, dressed them up in the refuse of theatrical wardrobes to represent the different nations and tribes of the globe, and at their head demanded of the Assembly their recognition as the representatives of the human race Absurd as it may seem now, the Assembly took t all in earnest and invited Klootz and his ragamuffins to seats in their body.

As the Orator of the Human Bace, Senator Hoar is an edition de luce of Anacharsis Klootz. but it remains to be seen whether he can conince the Senate that it is its duty to ignore the welfare of the American people, in order that the semi-civilized tribes of the Philippines may have an opportunity of experimenting with self-government, and of establishing another San Domingo off the coast of China. J. S. T.

ONE OF OUR DESERT ISLANDS.

San Clemente, Off the Const of California From the Land of Sunshine.

About fifty miles off the coast of California.

About fifty miles off the coast of California.

nearly opposite San Diego, lies the barren.
Ionely, and half unknown Island of San
Glemente. The trip is usually a rough one.
But in summer-time, at least, Wilson's Cove
offers a comparatively safe harbor, and if one
knows the locality well it is not hard to land
on the steep boulder-strewn beach. From the
shore the bare hills rise abruptly on all sides,
broken only by a little terracing. The first
impression given by the island and confirmed
by a study of its structure as a whole is that of
a great block of the
earth's crust, tipped un
on the side toward Catallina, and very little
altered by crosion.

San Clemente forms a
pasture for thousands
of sheep and a smaller
number of cattle, and
Wilson's Cove is the
headquarters of the
sheep herders when
they are on the island.
That is chiefly in the
spring and summer, for
during the rainy season
not only do the sheep
need less care but the
island is often unappromeinble on account
of rough weather. At
such sensor's one old
man, who had lived

of rough weather. As such sensors one old man, who had lived there for thirty years, used to have the island to himself, and might see ho human face for three months at a time. His cabin stands just about the shore at Wil-

above the shore at Wilson's Cove, and near it are the few rough buildings used by the sheep men. The place is usually known as Gallagher's.

The only water supply here is rain caught during the winter season in tanks. The joys of living in this favored spot are further enhanced in summergan in the hills, bringing from the naked slopes clouds of dust.

The more level regions of the Island remind one constantly of the desert. There are no trees except a very few in some of the larger canons. In the spring there are flowers, but they soon wither, and the summer aspect of the island seems its normal one. In some places there is grass, in others only cactus, or a little low underlying had two species of

one constantly of the desert. There are no trees except a very few in some of the larger cañons. In the spring there are flowers, but they soon wither, and the summer aspect of the island seems its normal one. In some places there is grass, in others only enclus, or a little low underbrush, and two species of mesembryanthemum, which are called "salt grass" by the herders.

Not only camp sites, but stone implements and human bones remain in considerable numbers to testify to the former occupation of this island by Indians.

The desert-like character of the Island is intensified by the almost absolute stilness. Birds of all sorts are much fewer than on Catalina. Except for a few crows—seldom heard—there seem to be none but the smaller birds, such as linnets and sparrows, which live principally in the enfons. There are no squirrels on the Island. Snakes and frogs are also unknown here, but in their place are mulifitudes of silent, sun-loving lizards. In the cañons one may catch an occasional glimpse of a wary fox; but generally the only large animals seen are the herds of wild goats, and the sheep and cattle, scarcely less wild which are pastured here. The most striking features of the island s topography, next to the terraces themselves, are the cañons which cut across them. There are no gradual descents from ridge to cañon, but a chasm yawns without warning across the level plain of a terrace, its walls dropping almost vertically into depths which can only be guessed. To scale these walls is in most cases an utter impossibility. Even at the most favorsble points the path which winds down to the bed of the cañon and up again glimes of the care and rough that only a mountain-bred animal could follow it. The hard-riding Mexican herders will not trust themselves to their sure-tooted horses in crossing some of the cañon, and any one acquainted with the class knows that a trait which will make a Mexican dismount must be bad indeed.

crossing some of the cañons, and any one acquainted with the class knows that a trail which will make a Mexican dismount must be bad indeed.

In the dry season not a stream is flowing anywhere on San Clemente. Only the great depth of the cañons cut in the solid rock and the immense boulders which are acattered over their beds can give any idea of the force of the torrents which foam and roar through the gorges in winter. Neither words nor pictures can do justice to the wildness and immensity of San Clemente's topography in general. The depth of the cañons, the broad expanse of the terraces, the height of their cliffs and the roughness of the coast are all belitted in any general view, and figures are powerless to measure grandeur.

We sailed out of the cove in the sunset, and this was our last view of San Clemente; the waters around us silver blue, the rugged cliffs rising above them, black against the saffron sky, and nestled in the shadow of those beeting hills, the little cabin, pathetic in its loneliness, with the sturdy old man sitting on the porch, his dogs and fowls around him, watehing the vessel out of sight.

Little Sums in Arithmetic.

## Little Sums in Arithmetic.

Perhaps you have just received from some placin Europe particulars of the large estate your uncle has left you. The interesting document may say that the fine property has an area of 4,852 square kilometris. You haven't an idea whether that means piece of land as small as a quarter section or as big as a county. If the simpled foreigner had only given the area in square miles the matter would be clear. But be easy. There are few things more simple than quare kflometre is 30-100 of a square mile. Just nultiply the number of square kilometres by the decimal 30 and you will have the area of the estate in square miles. Tach you will know the extent of your uncle's munificence.

Or you may be a crank on the subject of long-dis tance bicycle races, and you read that the French champion has pedalled 2,463 kilometres in a given time. You'd like to compare his performance with the American record and you can do it then and there if you know how easy a matter it is. A kilometre is 62-100 of a statute mile. Simply multiply the weary wheelman's total kilometres by .02 and you have his achievement reduced to miles. In a month or two you may hear that the great

17,000-ton steamship Bucolic has made an averaof twenty knots an hour on her first trip across the Atlantic. You don't know much about nautical terms, and would have a better idea of the vessel's speed if the distance per hour had been given in statute miles. But you can turn it into miles without excessive corebration. A knot, a nautical mile and a geographical mile are one and the same thing. A geographical mile equals 1.15 statute miles. Multiply the number of knots by 1.15 and you have the listance in statute miles.

Some of these results are not exact to the inch, be ause the decimals may be extended. But they are exact enough for purposes that do not require the most minute computation, and they diastrate the fact that it requires very little figuring to turn other people's expressions for area and distance into de ninations we may better understand

## Barred Out Because a Woman,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Knowing you commus are always open to air justifiable complaints of your readers and the public generally, I ask you

One night this week my daughter and I took the 14 Lehigh Valley train from Jersey City for Su-7.14 Lehigh Valley train from Jersey City for Buspension Bridge. As my daughter was returning to school and would not be home again until vacation, her mother wished to go through the gate and see her off, but was denied the courters by a brandless bey gateman with the curt explaination that only men had that privilege. Then my wife purchased a New ark ticket and presented it at the Newark gate, but the aforementioned beardless boy called our "Don't the ther through," and the natoman din't. Thave been twenty-five years travelling and this is my first experience of the kind.

NEW YORE, Jan. 11.

## A Great Roman Catholic Institution.

From the Sunday Democrat. The Institution of the Propaganda claims attention as a religious and scientific establishment, and com-prises four great departments—the college, the press, the library, and the museum. The first has for its object the education of missionaries destined to propagate the faith in all parts of the world, especially in those where the light of the Gospel has not yet penetrated. Students from every corner of the civilized world, and belonging to every rank in life, are trained here.

But it is also a scientific establishment and owns one of the finest presses and possesses what purport to be one of the completest collections of types in the world. Au idea may be formed of the wealth of this press by mentioning the fact that when the Council of the Vatican and the Pater Nortee was printed in no fewer that 250 different languages; at present the press issues B.bles, catechisms and missals in the characters of every known language.

The spacious shelves of the library contain about

45,000 volumes, and it is the fortunate possessor o manuscripts of incalculable value to the student of philology. From an ethnographical point of view it is said that there are few Continental museums which equal the museum attached to the Propaganda; the class of curiosities it owns is of a very varied character-pagan idols, arms, and utensils of every kin ar : ranged side by side with the grim instruments of missionary torture. It may be added that the variety of information which is available at the Propaganda is unique. There is, perhaps, no other European cabinet which is sugaged in more active correspondence than the Secretarist of the Propaganda, and none the sphere of whose action embraces a wider area.

POLITICAL NOTES.

John Lingo, Auditor of the State of Delaware, gets \$1,200 a year for his services, and Lewis Ball, State

Treasurer, gets \$1,950. George A. Jenks, Democratic candidate for Gov ernor of Pennsylvanis at the recent election, was beaten by 118,000 majority, but he did not lack appreciation in the Eighth Election precinct of the Fourth ward of Philadelphia. In this voting place ere were 12 votes cast for Mr. Stone, the successful Republican candidate for Governor, 215 for Mr. Jenks, and none for Silas Swallow, the Prohibition and Independent Republican candidate. In the Eleventh Election district of the same ward the Remblican vote was 10 and the Democratic vote 206

Suffolk county is one of the oldest in the State of New York, dating its origin back to November, 1883, The capital town of Riverhead was formed in 1792.

The committee appointed by the Republican county organization since the last election to inquire into the condition of the voting and registration laws has not yet made a comprehensive report, and it is thought by some members of the Republican organization that an obstacle to such a report is the unexplained occurrence of \$2,000 major ty against Theodore Boosevelt in the city of New York. One of the members of this committee (he voted for Fremont), when expostulated with on the poor showing of New York, answered testily that but for the efforts of some of his associates the majority against Mr. Roosevelt would have been 90,000.

Schuyler county, the last to be created under set f the Legislature prior to the establishment of Nascau, was not, as Na-sau county is, a subdivision of a former county, but a new county made up of parts of three others. The last previous division of a New York county was in 1841, when Geneves county was divided, one part retaining the name Genesee and the other becoming Wyoming county. Nassau has entered upon its career as a New York county on what may be called a bipartisan basis. The County Judge is a Democrat; the County Clerk is a Republicin; the District Attorney is a Democrat; the Sherff is a Republican; the County Treasurer is a Republican, and the duties of Surrogate devolve on a Democrat.

The last Legislature of New York passed a number of laws authorizing the use in elections of vari-ous ballet machines, the Myers machine, the Boma machine, the Standard machine, and others, and in our cities of the State-Rochester, Utica, James own and Hornellsville-there was voting by mahinery at the recent election. The assertion is made, and somewhat stoutly, that voting by machinery is in contravention to the provisions of the State Constitution: but, illegal or not, it is not pretended by any one that the exclusion of the votes eat by machinery would have affected the result in the State, though it would have altered to some ex tent the majorities cast for the successful candidate. The fact is that the use of a ballot machine is finding favor in many parts of the State, and the same constitutional objections which are unsuccessfully arged against it were raised against the system of voting by cross marks established in 1895.

There are 65 Democrats in the lower branch of the Massachusetts Legislature to 165 Republicans, though at last year's election the Republicans caried every county in that State and had a popular

The present State Government of Indiana, execu tive and indicial, is for the first time in many years solidly Republican. Both branches of the Indianapolis Legislature save Republican majorities, and the Republicans had a clear majority on the Con gress vote. Indians, long doubtful, seems now to be securely in the Republican column.

There are forty engine and hook and ladder comthe maintenance of which New York has appropri ted this year \$16,550 for supplies, rent, repairs and ose, but nothing for the payment of salaries. At a ecent meeting of the Board of Representatives the North Shore Fire Department Island the Legislative Committee reported that it had met during the week with the Legislative Committees of the Elgewater and Tottenville departments to arrange for the drafting of a bill to be presented jointly by the three departments at the next sestion of the Legislature. According to a recent opinion of the Corporation Counsel, the money which accrues from the 2 per cent, in surance tax reverts to the Veteran Firemen's Association. A clause will be inserted in the bill asking that this 2 per cent, tax be paid to the three departments in Richmond borough while doing volunteer duty. The firemen are dissatisfied with the appropriations allowed them under the charter, and say they need more,

Justice Joseph F. Daly closed on Jan. 1 his twentyeight years of uninterrupted judicial service, and Justice George C. Barrett, whose term expires at the end of the present year, has an even longer record of judicial term. Justice Barrett was elected in November, 1868, a Judge of the Common Pleas Court, at that time the oldest judic al tribunal in the Siate, and made up of three Judges, Charles P. Daly, John R. Brady and George C. Barrett. Subsequently the membership of the court was enlarged by the election of three additional Judges, of whom Joseph F. Daly was one. In 1871 Judge Barrett was elected a Supreme Court Justice for a fourteen year term, which expired in 1885, when he was re-elected for a second term, which expires at the close of this year

While the Municipal Court Justices are discussing an extension of their juradiction and an increase in heir nowers, objection comes from Chicago to the ribunals there, and a bill to fix, limit and determine the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in civil cases has been drafted for introduction in the lower house of the Illinois Legislature by Representative Carl Mueller and in the Senate by Senator Fred A. Busse. The law is intended to prevent the suing of people at a long distance from their residence. It provides hat no Justice of the Peace shall have jurisdiction to try, hear, and determine any civil case or proceed ing unless the plaintiff or defendant, or one of the plaintiffs or defendants, resides in, or has his prinripal place of business in, the town or prec not for

pointed. Among the applicants for appointment on the Poce Department during the last week of 1898 were floorwalker, a Long Island City house mover, a Canarsic oyster opener and a Tuckshoe trainman. The beneats of enlargement of the corporate boun daries of New York are reflected in the character and previous service of some of its public officials

More than 11,000,000 votes were cast at the recent lection in the States which participated in them, notwithstanding the fact that minor officers only were voted for at some of them. In the Presidential election of 1806 the total popular vote was 14 000. 000. The Republican plurality was larger in 1808 than it was at the Presidential election preceding.

The Socialist party, which polled 23,000 votes at the recent election in New York, a larger total than any of the outside parties, made a special effort in one of the Assembly districts of the city, the Sixteenth, and in one of the counties of the State, Onondays. The Socialist vote in the Sixteenth New York district was 1.214; in Onondaga it was 2,357 Last year the Socialist vote in Onondega was 1500 only. So large a total in Onondaga is the more sur-prising, as in this former temperance stronghold the Prohibition vote was only 500.

The term of the Governor of Wyoming is four years, and the salary is \$2,500. In the election of 1894, Mr. Richards, the Republican candidate, was chosen by a plurality of 3,100. In the election of 1898 he had a plurality of 1.300, notwithstanding the fact that at the intervening election, that of 1896, Bryan carried Wyoming.

The late George W. Morton, Commissioner of Exise from 1877 to 1883, was one of the last surviving members of the Native American or Know Nothing party, which had its chief support in the Ninth and Eleventh wards of New York, and was once strong enough numerically to elect a Mayor of this city independent of either of the great political parties. Mr. Morton was an unsuccessful candidate for Coroner on the Tammany Hall ticket in 1875, and his appointment to office followed soon after. He was 74 years of size at the time of his death, and had resided for some years prior to it in Harlem. The Native American party made, as such, its last nominations in 1860.

## Through French Spectacles.

We have already told how the American Admiral Dewey, the victor of Manila, was writing review articles at fifty france a line and that his rival, den. Wheeler, the conqueror of Porto Rico, had received 0,000 france for his story of his campaign. Meanwhile Lieut, Hosbern, the here of Santiago, is deriving profit from his popularity in a much less prosaic way; he organizes kissing tours throughout the cities of the Union.

Every evening be hires a parior in a great hotel and ves out notice that he will receive all the married ladies and young women of the city. He gives each one his autograph in exchange for a kiss. The trans-atiantic newspapers announce that he has just beaten the record in this form of sport by embracing as Kansas City 220 blondes and 197 bruncties within the space of two hours.